



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(21) Application number : **94302244.2**

(51) Int. Cl.⁵ : **G06F 9/44**

(22) Date of filing : **29.03.94**

(30) Priority : **16.04.93 US 48438**

(43) Date of publication of application :
19.10.94 Bulletin 94/42

(84) Designated Contracting States :
DE FR GB

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :
01.03.95 Bulletin 95/09

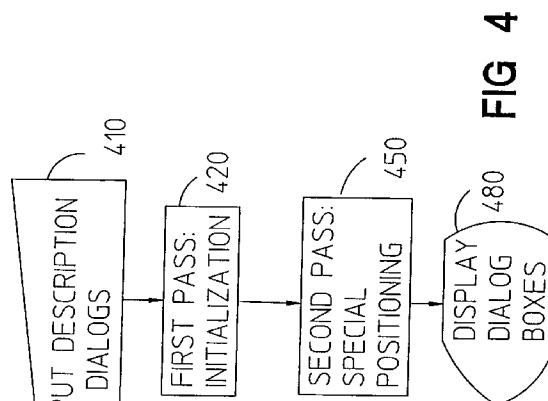
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(54) **Method for dynamically building dialog boxes.**

(57) A method for dynamically building dialog boxes (240) within a graphical user interface application (225). A description language (230) is provided to build a description file which contains dialog box templates. This method accommodates content changes of the dialog boxes by using the templates for each dialog box; this template will grow or shrink according to its content requirements. The present method performs two functions: (1) provides initial positioning of dialog elements (420) and (2) sets special positioning requirements (450). The present method proceeds sequentially through the description file so that elements that are described first within the file will be positioned first within the dialog box. In a preferred embodiment, the starting point of each dialog box is the upper left-hand corner. In this manner, prior defined elements will appear above or to the left of subsequent defined elements.





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 2244

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
X	EP-A-0 528 640 (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES COPORATION) * the whole document *	1-3	G06F9/44
Y	---	4	
Y	INSIDE MACINTOSH, VOLUME 1, 1985, CUPERTINO, CA Chapter 9, The Window Manager * page I-267 - page I-291 * Chapter 13, The Dialog Manager * page I-397 - page I-409 *	4	
A	---	1-3	
P,A	EP-A-0 558 224 (IBM) * the whole document *	5	
A	IEEE COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND APPLICATIONS, vol.6, no.11, November 1986, NEW YORK US pages 40 - 45 D.R.OLSEN JR. 'Editing Templates : A User Interface Generation Tool' * the whole document *	5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 4 January 1995	Examiner Scharfenberger, B
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons * : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.92 (P04C01)